is now saying that the question of including the work is 'being considered'. Will the Hon. Minister make up his mind at least now and say that so far as the Second Five-Year Plan is concerned, this work will be included in it?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI : Yes, Sir, in view of the importance of the matter, we are reconsidering this matter.

Tamilnad Christian Association Conference

* 3108 *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received the resolution passed by the Second Conference of the Tamilnad Christian Association held at Tindivanam on 17th December 1954 regarding—

(i) the removal of the distinction between Hindu Harijans and Christians of Harijan origin in matters concerning educational concessions and appointments; and

(ii) the extension of the special privileges and the preference for ten more years from the date of expiry of the tenth year specified in the Constitution; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Engineering degree of Sri Venkateswara University

* 3109 *Q.*—SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Engineering degree of Sri Venkateswara University is held on a par with the degree of the Madras University?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : No, Sir. The University has not raised the question for the consideration of this Government so far.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that students belonging to Madras State are now studying in the Andhra State and they will be conferred the Venkateswara University Degree of Engineering soon after they pass out from their institutions next year? These students being residents of the Madras State will naturally seek employment in this State. So, will the Government treat the Degree of Venkateswara University on a par with the Degree of the Madras University for purposes of employment, especially as the Examination in the former University is being conducted by the Professors of the Madras University?

30th January 1956]

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : This question is not engaging the attention of the Government just at present. When the question comes up before us, it will be examined and a decision will be taken. I may add that the authorities of the other University have not approached this Government so far.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Did not the Minister for Education, when he visited Kurnool, give an assurance that he would do his best to get the Madras University Degree for those students? Is it not a definite assurance given to them on behalf of this Government and has this assurance been implemented?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, this matter has been fully considered. The matter was referred to the Madras University. The University made a suggestion that instead of conferring another Degree, a Certificate of the Madras University could be given stating that the students had undertaken the Madras University course and they have passed the examination also conducted by the Madras University. This suggestion was forwarded to Anantapur for the opinion of the students there. But, they seem to prefer the Degree. So, the matter has been referred again to the Madras University for its consideration. We are awaiting a reply from the Madras University.

Distribution of sesbania seeds

* 3110 *Q.*—SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of sesbania seeds procured in Tanjore district during 1954–55 and 1955–56, and the price per bag;

(*b*) the germination percentage of those seeds;

(*c*) whether these seeds are compulsorily distributed in the districts other than Tanjore;

(*d*) whether the cost of the seeds is compulsorily collected from the maistries and fieldmen of the Agricultural Department, where the ryots are not willing to take the seeds; and

(*e*) whether the ryots have taken to border-planting of sesbania and if so, in what places and in what districts?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) During the financial year 1954–55, the Madras Agricultural Department procured about 4,153 bags of sesbania seeds in Tanjore district. During the current year, about 905 bags were procured in that district up to the end of September 1955. The price paid was Rs. 40 per bag of 160 lb.

(*b*) The germination percentage varies from 80 to 90 per cent.

(*c*) No, Sir.

(*d*) No, Sir.

(*e*) The practice of line planting of sesbania is prevalent in all the districts of this State.